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By: **Senator Lawlah**  
Introduced and read first time: February 26, 2003  
Assigned to: Rules

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Property Tax - Procedure - Holders of Certificates of Sale**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing a certain provision of law authorizing a holder of  
4 certificates of sale to include and join several certificates of sale in one  
5 proceeding; altering a certain provision of law authorizing a holder of a  
6 certificate of sale to be reimbursed for certain attorney's fees; and generally  
7 relating to property tax collection procedures relating to holders of certificates of  
8 sale.

9 BY repealing  
10 Article - Tax - Property  
11 Section 14-841  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
15 Article - Tax - Property  
16 Section 14-843(a)  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article - Tax - Property**

22 [14-841.

23 Any single holder of certificates of sale relating to several properties in the same  
24 county may include and join in 1 proceeding any number of the certificates. However,  
25 if more than 1 property owner is involved, a maximum of 10 certificates may be joined  
26 in 1 proceeding. The complaint filed in any proceeding is not subject to objection on  
27 the ground of multifariousness.]

1 14-843.

2 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, on redemption, the  
3 plaintiff or the holder of a certificate of sale is entitled to be reimbursed for expenses  
4 incurred in any action or in preparation for any action to foreclose the right of  
5 redemption. In addition, the plaintiff or holder of a certificate of sale, on redemption,  
6 is entitled to be reimbursed for fees paid for recording the certificate of sale, for  
7 REASONABLE attorney's fees [in the sum of \$400 for each certificate of sale],  
8 PROVIDED THAT THE FEES MAY NOT EXCEED \$400 UNLESS AN ACTION TO  
9 FORECLOSE THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION HAS BEEN FILED, for expenses incurred in  
10 the publication and service of process by publication, for reasonable fees for a  
11 necessary title search, and for taxes, together with interest and penalties on the  
12 taxes, arising after the date of sale that have been paid by the plaintiff, including, in  
13 Baltimore City only, taxes, interest, and penalties paid in accordance with subsection  
14 (c) of this section and interest at the rate of redemption provided in § 14-820 of this  
15 subtitle from the date of payment to the date of redemption. The plaintiff or holder of  
16 a certificate of sale is not entitled to be reimbursed for any other expenses.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 July 1, 2003.